



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/895,511	07/16/97	TAKAHASHI	Y 227146440A

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LM51/0914

EXAMINER	
CHU, K	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2752	

DATE MAILED: 09/14/98

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

LM51/0914

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
08/895,511	07/16/97	014	CHU, K	2752 09/14/98
First Named Applicant	TAKAHASHI, YOSHITAKA			

TITLE OF INVENTION OPTICAL PICKUP APPARATUS

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEES DUE	DATE DUE
2 227146440A	369-112.000	I94	UTILITY	NO	\$1320.00	12/14/98

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.

Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

Notice of Allowability	Application No. 08/895,511	Applicant(s) Takahashi et al.
	Examiner Kim-Kwok CHU	Group Art Unit 2752

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

- This communication is responsive to Pre-Amendments filed on 7/16/97
- The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7, 10-12, 15, 16, 45, and 46
- The drawings filed on Jul 16, 1997 are acceptable.
- Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
 - received.
 - received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) 08/311,050.
 - received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

- Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
- Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
 - because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.
 - including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. _____.
 - including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on _____, which has been approved by the examiner.
 - including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

- Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

- Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 4
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1-7, 10-12, 15, 16, 45 and 46 are allowable over the prior art of record.

2. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance based on applicant's amendment filed on July 16, 1997:

In addition to Applicant's parent invention of an optical pickup where both emitted and reflected light are pass through an uniaxial crystal plate, Applicant claims that the uniaxial plate having a discontinuous surface.

In one embodiment, Applicant claims an optical head having a flux separating element made of birefringent material disposed in a divergent optical path between a light source and a quarter-wave plate to separate light rays reflected on an optical recording medium from an optical axis of incident rays.

The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the features as recited in applicant's claims.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yoshizawa (5,631,774) is pertinent because Yoshizawa teaches an optical head having a beam splitting means.

Toide et al. (5210,627) is pertinent because Toide teaches an optical head having a birefringent plate.

5. Any response to this action should be mailed to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C.
20231.

or faxed to:
(703) 305-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry).

Or:
(703) 308-6606, (for informal or draft communications,
please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim CHU whose telephone number is (703) 305-3032.

KG 8/28/88
Kim-kwok CHU
Examiner AU2752
August 28, 1998

Eddie Chan
EDDIE P. CHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER